(b) and (c) As per the National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM), IT and IT Enabled Services/BPO Sector remains a net hirer. During the FY 2008-09, the direct employment in this sector is estimated to reach 2.2 million from 2.0 million in the previous year.

Telephone Advisory Committees

†2315. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the telecommunication advisory committees to be constituted in all districts and State level across the country;

(b) the tenure of the last committee having ended in May, 2009, whether the department has decided not to constitute new committees; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons that the committees with two years tenure are not being constituted even after lapse of 6 months tenure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Telephone Advisory Committees (TACs) are constituted at Telecom District Level only. These are not constituted at Circle/State level. All 359 Telecom District Level TACs have already been constituted [tenure of 348 TACs are upto 30.09.2011 and of 11 TACs are upto 30.06.2010].

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

Comprehensive wage structure for Gramin Dak Sevaks

2316. SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK:
SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether based on R.S. Natarajan Committee's recommendations, Government has evolved a new comprehensive wage structure of Gramin Dak Sevaks (GDS);

(b) if so, the main recommendations of the Committee; and

(c) the number of such Dak Sevaks, at present, and the facilities and perks extended to them to help them travel in rural areas devoid of roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient features of the recommendations made by Shri R.S. Nataraja Murti Committee, accepted and implemented by the Government are given in the Statement (*See* below).

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) There are 273669 Gramin Dak Sevaks in the department as on 31.03.2009. All the Gramin Dak Sevaks Mail Deliverer and Mail Carrier are paid Cycle Maintenance Allowance @ Rs.60/- per month if the track is cycleable. The Gramin Dak Sevak Branch Postmaster performing the delivery work and doing the work of conveyance of mail are paid Rs.500/- for each item of work. Gramin Dak Sevak Branch Postmaster doing delivery work only in the Post Village is paid Rs.250/- per month. A Gramin Dak Sevak Mail Deliverer or Mail Carrier attached with the additional duty of another post is entitled to receive allowance @ Rs.25/- per day. Gramin Dak Sevaks who are required to use the boat for performing delivery work or mail exchange are paid boat allowance @ Rs.50/- per month.

Statement

Salient features of Recommendations of Shri R.S. Nataraja Murti Committee accepted and implemented by the Government

1. **Time Related Continuity Allowance (TRCA) of Gramin Dak Sevaks (Implemented w.e.f. 01.01.2006)**

Sl. No.	Category of GDS	Existing TRCA	Revised TRCA w.e.f. 01.01.2006	Work load in hours
1	2	3	4	5
1.	GDS sub Postmaster	Rs. 2125-50-3125	Rs. 4575-85-7125	4-5 hours
2.	GDS Branch Postmaster	Rs. 1280-35-1980	Rs. 2745-50-4245	Up to 3 hours work
		New TRCA slab	Rs. 3200-60-5000	More than 3 hours up to 3 hrs. 30 min
		Rs. 1600-40-2400	Rs. 3660-70-5760	Up to 4 hours.
		New TRCA slab	Rs. 4115-75-6365	More than 4 hours up to 4 hour 30 min
		New TRCA slab	Rs. 4575-85-7125	More than 4 hrs 30 min up to 5 hours
3.	GDS Mail deliverer/ Stamp vendor	**New TRCA slab**	Rs. 2665-50-4165	For work up to 3 hrs for new entrants
		Rs. 1375-25-2125	Rs. 3330-60-5130	For Work load up to 3 hours 45 minutes

1	2	3	4	5
		Rs. 1740-30-2640	Rs. 4220-75-6470	More than 3 hours 45 minutes up to 5 hours
4.	GDS Mail Carrier/ Packer/ Mailman	**New TRCA slab**	Rs. 2295-45-3695	For work up to 3 hrs for new entrants
		Rs. 1220-20-1600	Rs. 2870-50-4370	More than 3 hrs up to 3 hrs 45 min
		Rs. 1545-25-2020	Rs. 3635-65-5585	More than 3 hours 45 minutes up to 5 hours.

2. **Other Allowances (implemented w.e.f. 9.10.2009)**

Nature of Allowance	Existing allowance	Revised allowances
1	2	3
Office Maintenance Allowance (OMA)	Rs. 50 per month for GDS Sub Postmaster/Branch Postmaster	Rs. 100 per month for GDS Sub Postmaster/Branch Postmaster
Fixed Stationery Charge	Rs. 10 for GDS Sub Post-master/Branch Postmaster and Rs. 5 for other categories of GDS	Rs. 25 p.m. for GDS Sub Post-master/Branch Postmaster and Rs. 10 for other categories of GDS like GDS Mail Deliverer/ Stamp vendor and Mail Carrier doing delivery work
Boat Allowance	Rs. 10 per month	Actual charges paid to the Boatman subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 per month for Conveyance of Mail
Cash Conveyance Allowance	Rs. 10 per occasion plus Bus fares for conveyance of cash from Branch office to Account office.	Rs. 50 per month
Cycle Maintenance Allowance (C.M.A)	Rs. 30 per month provided the Gramin Dak Sevak travels a distance of 10 kms per day.	Rs. 60 per month for GDS Mail Deliverer/Mail Carrier who use their own cycle for discharge of Duty. Present Minimum Distance Condition of 10 kms for grant of cycle maintenance allowance stands withdrawn.

1	2	3
Combined Duty Allowance (CDA) for Branch Postmasters.	Rs. 100 per month for performing delivery or conveyance or both.	1. GDS Branch Postmasters performing delivery or conveyance duties or both will be paid Rs. 500 P.M. for each item of work separately. 2. If the Branch Postmaster is performing delivery at the BO village only, it will be restricted to Rs. 250 P.M 3. BPM exchanging Mails at Bus stand or at Railway Stations will be compensated at the rate of Rs. 250 P.M.
Allowances for combination of duties for Mail Delivery/ Mail Conveyance.	Rs. 75 per month for GDS Mail Deliverer/Mail Carrier for performing additional duty.	GDS MD/MC attached with the additional duty of another post, revised rate of allowance will be at the rate of Rs. 25 per day subject to a Maximum of Rs. 625 P.M.
Compensation to Mail Carriers who are detained for exchange of mails.	Rs. 3/- per hour subject to a Maximum of Rs. 6 per day.	Rs. 6/- per hour subject to a Maximum of Rs. 12 per day subject to same conditions.

3. **Service discharge benefits (effective from** 9.10.2009)

Nature of benefit	Present benefit paid	Revised benefits.
1	2	3
Ex-gratia Gratuity	Granted at the rate of half months basic allowance drawn immediately before discharge of service for each completed year of service subject to a maximum of Rs. 18,000 or 16.5 months basic allowance last drawn whichever is less. Minimum service prescribed is 15 years.	Continuance of the existing formula for grant of *Ex-gratia* Gratuity subject to a Maximum of Rs. 60,000

1	2	3
Severance Amount	A lump sum severance amount of Rs. 30,000/- is paid on discharge provided a GDS has completed 20 years of continuous service. In case of a GDS completing 15 years of service but less than 20 years of continuous service the severance amount paid is Rs. 20,000	Severance Amount shall be paid at the rate of Rs. 1500 for every completed year of service subject to a maximum of Rs. 60000 with reduction in minimum eligibility period to 10 years.

4. **Maternity Grant (effective from 09.10.2009)**

Women GDS will be provided Maternity Grant equivalent to three months TRCA with DA for the birth of two children out of the welfare fund of the Department. This will take *effect from the date of issue of the order.*

5. **Productivity Linked Bonus (PLB)**

Present calculation of the *Ex-gratia* bonus by applying the calculation ceiling of Rs. 2500 as basic TRCA+DA shall continue to be adopted till such time a new scheme is devised by the Department.

Payment of Arrears

Arrears of TRCA *w.e.f.* 1.1.2006 to 31.10.2009 have been ordered to be paid in cash in two installments of 40% and 60% spread over the financial year 2009-10 and 2010-11 after adjusting the payments made toward the basic monthly TRCA+DA drawn from time to time. **The 2nd instalment of 60% arrears will be payable only after issue of specific instructions in this regard.**

Public consultations by TRAI

2317. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that TRAI convenes public consultations on the service quality standards in cellular telephony;

(b) if so, the methodology for conducting such public interactions and for the identification of participant stakeholders, the details thereof;

(c) whether any guidelines have been framed regarding periodicity and location of such consultations, the details thereof; and

(d) the data-wise, location-wise details of such consultations during three years along with participant stakeholders?